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In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 18, 22-24 and 27; and cancel claims 28 and 33, all as shown below. This

listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium storing instructions for improved

implementation of a J2EE connector architecture on an application server, the instructions comprising:

a resource adapter for an Enterprise Information System;

a set of system-level contracts between the resource adapter and an application server;

a Common Client Interface capable of providing a client API for Java applications and development

tools to access the resource adapter;

a connection manager on the application server capable of managing and maintaining size of a pool of

connections to the Enterprise Information System, wherein the connection manager matches a request for a

new connection to the Enterprise Information System, through the resource adapter, with an existing and

available managed connection in the pool of connections, and wherein the connection manager creates a

plurality of managed connections when an existing and available managed connection is not found, wherein

the connection manager creates each of the plurality of managed connections using an initiating principal and

client request information contained in the request for a new connection; and

a set of packaging and development interfaces that provide the ability for resource adapters to plug into

J2EE applications in a modular manner; and

a deployment descriptor containing a configuration element for the resource adapter, the configuration

element allowing a user to override default deployment values for the resource adapter.

2 - 15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, further

comprising:

a deployment component adapted to automatically detect and deploy a resource adapter on the

application server.

17. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, wherein:

the resource adapter further provides support for error logging and tracing.

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18. A computer readable storage medium according to claim 17, further (Currently Amended):

comprising:

wherein the [[a]] deployment descriptor contains containing a logging-enabled element capable of

indicating whether logging is enabled, as well as a log-filename element capable of specifying the name of the

file in which to write the logging information.

19. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, wherein the

connection manager enables the resource adapter to provide services specific to the resource adapter, the

services being selected from the group consisting of connection pooling, error logging and tracing, and security

management.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 19, wherein:

the connection manager can create physical connections to the Enterprise Information System and the

resource adapter is capable of having more than one connection manager instance per physical connection.

22. (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 19, further

comprising:

wherein the [[a]] deployment descriptor specific to the resource adapter allows allowing the resource

adapter to be linked to a second resource adapter, the resource adapter capable of sharing resources with the

second resource adapter, thereby preventing the duplication of resources and only requiring the resource

adapter to modify a subset of resource adapter attributes.

23. (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, further

comprising:

a deployment descriptor for the resource adapter;

wherein the set of system-level contracts includes a connection management contract and the

deployment descriptor contains connection pool parameters capable of setting parameters selected from the

group consisting of: the initial number of managed connections the application server attempts to allocate at

deployment time, the maximum number of managed connections the application server allows to be allocated

at any one time, the number of managed connections the application server attempts to allocate when filling a

request for a new connection, whether the application server attempts to reclaim unused managed connections

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to save system resources, the time the application server waits between attempts to reclaim unused managed

connections, the frequency of time to detect and reclaim connections that have exceeded their usage time, and

the amount of usage time allowed for a connection.

24. A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, further (Currently Amended):

comprising:

wherein the [[a]] deployment descriptor for the resource adapter contains and containing an initiating

principal mapping, the mapping capable of being used at deployment time if connection pool parameters

indicate that the application server should initialize connections.

25. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, further

comprising:

a security principal map for each deployed resource adapter, the map providing a mechanism to define

appropriate resource principal values for resource adapter and Enterprise Information System sign-on

processing.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium for improved implementation of a J2EE

connector architecture on an application server, comprising:

a resource adapter for an Enterprise Information System;

a deployment descriptor, wherein the deployment descriptor contains a configuration element for the

resource adapter, wherein the configuration element allows a user to override default deployment values

containing doployment elements for the resource adapter;

a set of system-level contracts between the resource adapter and an application server, the set including

a security management contract;

a password converter tool capable of being used with the security management contract to encrypt any

passwords in the deployment descriptor, wherein the password converter tool parses an existing deployment

descriptor containing non-encrypted passwords and creates a new deployment descriptor containing encrypted

passwords;

a Common Client Interface capable of providing a client API for Java applications and development

tools to access the resource adapter; and

a set of packaging and development interfaces that provide the ability for resource adapters to plug into

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J2EE applications in a modular manner; and

e-deployment descriptor containing a configuration element for the resource adapter, the configuration

element allowing a user to override default deployment values for the resource adapter.

28 - 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, wherein:

the connection manager attempts to recycle a managed connection from the connection pool if a

maximum number of connections is reached.

35. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, wherein:

the connection manager monitors the activity of managed connections in the connection pool during

the deployment of a resource adapter, the connection manager being capable of reducing the size of the

connection pool if connection usage decreases and remains at the decreased level over a period of time.

36. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, wherein:

the connection manager automatically closes a managed connection that has exhausted its usage time.

37. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 1, wherein

transaction level type supported by the resource adapter is specified by an element in a deployment descriptor.

38. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 37, wherein

transaction level type supported by the resource adapter is specified as XA transaction, local transaction, or no

transaction.

39. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 35, wherein an

element in the deployment descriptor sets the frequency for calculating connection pool size reduction.

40. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 36, wherein an

element in the deployment descriptor sets the frequency for calculating whether a connection has exceeded its

usage time.

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41. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium according to claim 36, wherein an element in the deployment descriptor sets the maximum usage time for a connection.